

NAME:	Jan Rees 
Profile: <i>(Tell us about yourself; how long have you been writing? What inspires you to write? how long have you been a member of Watford Writers? What are your favourite reads?)</i>	I have been a member of Watford Writers for about 10 years. My writing is usually inspired by things I see, hear or experience. It is also sometimes autobiographical and often triggered by a memory.
Main writing interests <i>(Novelist, Poet, Playwright, Biographer, Historian, Academic, Researcher, other etc?)</i>	I mainly write poems, but have also enjoyed writing short pieces of prose and one or two stories. I enjoy reading my work aloud and bringing it to life.
Do you have a special place in which to write?	I often write lines in my head while on my daily walk and then write them down when I get home. When I have a first draft I usually type up the piece I am working on and go from there.
Do you have a preferred time of day for writing?	Not really.
Have you been published or have self-published? <i>(Please list your publications)</i>	No, except as a contributor to the Watford Writers anthology which was produced in 2020.
Do you have any special techniques for writing? Specialist equipment or writing aids?	I sometimes make notes of certain words, phrases or references I would like to use, which I then eventually incorporate into a poem.
Have you been involved with any other writing activities? <i>(e.g. workshops, organising writing events, attending external workshops, retreats?)</i>	I have enjoyed helping to deliver one or two Poetry Workshops to different sorts of groups. I also occasionally read some of my work aloud to a Tea Club for elderly people where I help out.

What writing project are you currently working on (or intend to start)?	Nothing in particular at the moment until something sets me off!
Do you have other interests? and/or member of other groups/societies?	Apart from writing my main interests are baking – particularly bread. I also I enjoy watching and listening to documentaries and talks about various aspects of history.
Do you have a website; Facebook, Twitter; Instagram? or write a blog?	No website although I am on Facebook.
What message would you like to give to other writers / would-be writers?	Just have a go. You never know where it might lead or what you might achieve,
Do you have favourite author or book?	I am a big fan of Alan Bennett and have read or seen almost all of his work. I enjoy biographies too and thrillers, particularly the work of Elly Griffiths, Susan Hill, PD James and Robert Harris.